

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 8 to recite as follows:

Figs. 3A-3C illustrate the genomic sequence and translation of the *C. elegans* gro-1 gene (~~SEQ ID NO: 2~~ SEQ ID NO: 2 and 66);

On page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 11 to recite as follows:

Fig. 3D illustrates the predicted mutant protein (SEQ ID NO: 64 and 65);

On page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 17 to recite as follows:

Fig. 5A-5B illustrates the alignment of gro-1 with the published sequences of the E. coli (P16384) and yeast (PO7884) enzymes;

On page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 23 to recite as follows:

Fig. 7 illustrates the alignment of the predicted HAP-1 amino acid sequence with homologues from other species (SEQ ID NO: 69, 7, 70 and 71);

On page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 29 to recite as follows:

Fig. 9A-9B illustrates a comparison of the conceptual amino acid sequences for GRO-1 (SEQ ID NO: 2) and hgro-1p(SEQ ID NO: 63);

On page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 31 to recite as follows:

Fig. 10 illustrates a conceptual translation of a partial sequence of the Drosophila homologue of gx-o-1 (AA816785) (SEQ ID NO: 72);

On page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 34 to recite as follows:

Fig. 11 illustrates the structure of pMQB (SEQ ID NO: 73 and 2);

On page 6, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 to recite as follows:

Figs. 13A-13C illustrate the genomic sequence and translation of the gop-1 gene (~~SEQ ID NO: 73~~ SEQ ID NO: 73 and 4);

On page 6, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 3 to recite as follows:

Fig. 14 illustrates the genomic sequence and translation of the gop-2 gene (~~SEQ. ID. NO. 74~~ SEQ ID NO: 74 and 5);

On page 6, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 5 to recite as follows:

Figs. 15A-15B illustrate the genomic sequence and translation of the gop-3 gene (~~SEQ. ID. NO. 75~~ SEQ ID NO: 75 and 6); and

On page 6, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 7 to recite as follows:

Fig. 16 illustrates the genomic sequence and translation of the hap-1 gene (~~SEQ. ID. NO. 77~~ SEQ ID NO: 6 and 77).